GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6278
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2005
SCHEMES FOR WEAVERS
Kushwaha Shri Narendra Kumar;Shahid Shri Mohammed

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has launched weavers' welfare schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if so, the number of weavers benefited with the funds released by the Centre to the States for these schemes during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) the details of assistance provided in the country through these schemes;

(e) whether the Government has fixed any criterion for giving benefits under the said welfare schemes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES(SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA)

(a)& (b) Yes Sir, the Government of India is implementing Weavers` Welfare Scheme with the components of Health Package, Thrift Fund and New Insurance for Handloom weavers. Under the scheme benefits are provided for taking care of the health problems, social security and also material insurance cover to the handloom weavers.

(c) 606930 weavers have been covered under the Weavers` Welfare Scheme during last three years and Rs.1914.40 lakh has been released to various State Governments as detailed below:

Year	No. of weavers covered	Amount released (Rs. in lakh)
2002-03	1,98,871	530.00
2003-04	1,62,295	575.88
2004-05	2,45,764	808.52
Total	6,06,930	1914.40

(d) Under the Health Package component, the assistance is provided to the weavers for treatment of profession related diseases like; tuberculosis, asthma, inflammation of alimentary canal system, cost of testing of eyes and spectacles, supply of safe drinking water, maternity benefits to women weavers, payment of additional compensation for permanent measures of family planning and infrastructure for primary health centre. Under Thrift Fund component assistance is provided to create a fund in the nature of fund so as to meet the weaver those funds for the purpose of education, marriage of their children, purchase/repair of their houses and to meet other social obligations. Under the New Insurance for handloom weavers, the assistance is provided for coverage against loss or damage to dwelling due to flood, fire, earthquake etc., damage to contents of the dwelling like; looms, raw material etc., medical coverage and personal accident insurance against accidental death.

(e) & (f) The eligibility criteria for coverage under the scheme is that the weaver should be a regular member of a Society and must earn at least 50% of his/her income from handlooms.